

FOCUS ON THE FIRST

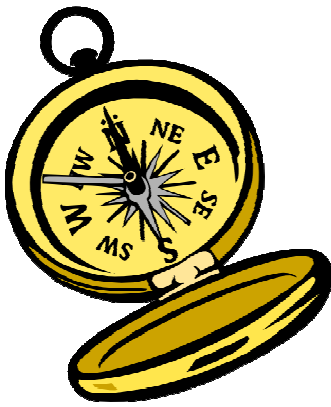
MONTHLY CONSTITUENT NEWSLETTER

COUNCILMAN CHRIS FORD—1ST COUNCIL DISTRICT
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

VOLUME I, ISSUE 3 JANUARY 2014

MAJOR POLICY & PROGRAMS UP FOR DEBATE IN 2014

Happy New Year, friends & neighbors! I hope your family was fortunate to enjoy a fun & festive holiday season. Urban County Council adjourned its meeting schedule for winter break on December 10, 2013. We are scheduled to return to session on Tuesday, January 14th. There figures to be many major initiatives to address, particularly of interest to the 1st District. Just to name a few:



- Workforce Investment & Job Training
- Affordable Housing Trust Fund
- Legacy Trail Downtown Extension (Phase III)
- Homelessness Commission Recommendations
- Proposed 2 – way Downtown Street Conversion Study
- FY 2014–2015 Budget

I plan to keep you informed & updated on these & other important issues throughout the calendar year. So please stay tuned to future editions of “Focus on the First”. And always feel free to contact me in the interim if you have thoughts, questions or concerns.

MAYOR SET TO DELIVER ANNUAL “STATE OF THE CITY” ADDRESS

Mayor Jim Gray will address the Council on January 21st, with his annual “State of the City” Address. We envision hearing a recap of highlights & progress made in 2013, as well as a glimpse of the Mayor’s vision for city government in 2014.

The Lexington Forum will again host this luncheon attended by government officials, civic & business leaders. The Mayor’s Address will also be televised live on Government Television GTV3 (Time Warner Cable, channel 3), beginning at 11:30 AM.



Chris Ford
Councilman, 1st District

JANUARY CALENDAR:

14—Urban County Council back in session

16— Council Meeting 6:00pm

20—Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (LFUCG Closed) & Annual MLK March (Downtown) 10am

21—Mayor Gray’s State of City Address (Hyatt Regency) 11:30am

22—BCTC Newtown Campus Advisory Council Meeting (Newtown Campus) 4:00pm

30—Council Meeting 6:00pm

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NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION LEADERS MEET & COLLABORATE

In 2013, our office initiated & convened a series of quarterly meetings with leaders of neighborhood associations throughout the 1st District. It's an idea & a model I borrowed from my former colleague, retired 2nd District Councilman Tom Blues. The intent is designed to bring together leaders from across the district to (1) share information on current city services, programs & contacts; and (2) to engage in an open dialogue with peer neighborhood leaders & our Council Office.

In 2013, our schedule of topics & meeting venues included:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| ◆ <i>Government Communications & Public Info</i> | The Plantory |
| ◆ <i>FY 2014 Budget Recap</i> | Northside Library |
| ◆ <i>Public Safety</i> | BCTC Newtown Campus |
| ◆ <i>2013 Recap & 2014 Preview</i> | Lyric Theatre |



The tentative date for the first quarterly meeting is **Tuesday, February 25th** at Coolavin Park Shelter located at 550 W. Sixth Street.

Note: There are roughly a dozen associations that actively meet on a monthly basis in the respective neighborhoods. Either myself or my Legislative Aide, Tiffany Tatum, make a concerted effort to attend as many as possible. Please keep us informed on dates & times of meetings and / or other neighborhood events. We'd love to join you!

RECENT RETIREMENTS ANNOUNCED IN KEY PARKS & RECREATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT POSTS

Two (2) veteran governmental officials have retired from LFUCG. *Jerry Hancock*, the past Director of Parks & Recreation; and *Steve Feese*, the past director of the Division of Waste Management, ended their long careers with local government in late 2013.

Both of these divisions are instrumental in protecting and promoting the vitality of neighborhoods throughout the city. I personally have been fortunate to work with both Jerry & Steve on projects specifically important to the 1st District. Please join me in wishing these guys well in retirement. Our office will continue to support the great team of staff members at both Parks & Waste Management.

PARTNERS FOR YOUTH 2014 GRASSROOTS GRANT APPLICATION AVAILABLE NOW!



Partners for Youth's Grassroots Allocations Program awards money to programs in Fayette County that provide opportunities for young people. This program provides a great service to small, grassroots organizations that need assistance with funding their programs. For more information and to download the application, visit www.partners4youth.org. The application deadline is January 31, 2014.

PFY CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: lhatfield@lexingtonky.gov
Telephone: (859) 258-3119

Mailing Address: Partners for Youth
342 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507

LEXINGTON TO CELEBRATE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY



The greater Lexington community will again celebrate the national holiday in observance of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. The annual highlight of events culminates on the morning of Monday, January 20th. The Annual Unity Breakfast will be hosted by the Lexington Alumni Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The breakfast will be held at the Lexington Convention Center (Tickets are \$20, in advance).

The Commemorative March through downtown Lexington will immediately follow the breakfast (at approximately 10:00 AM). Lastly, the University of Kentucky will present its annual MLK Holiday program at 11:00 AM, also at the Convention Center. The March & the UK Program are free & open to the public. Many numerous other events across the community will also occur throughout the month of January in honor of Dr. King.

SPEED CONTROLS TO BE INSTALLED IN HUSTON ALLEY

Working in conjunction with the Division of Traffic Engineering, speed humps have been approved for installation in the downtown area on Huston Alley. Huston Alley runs parallel to W. Third Street, in the block of N. Limestone and Martin Luther King Boulevard.

The Council granted authorization for the Huston Alley project in early December 2013. Huston Alley is located at the northern edge of Lexington's business district. In addition, both Sayre School and Lexington Traditional Magnet School are adjacent neighbors to the Alley.

The process for initiating speed controls, such as speed humps, begins at the neighborhood level. Once petitioned, the Division of Traffic Engineering performs a series of analysis to examine the need and the potential impacts of the proposed measures.

Importantly, surveys are taken (and a vote recorded) of the residents & businesses within the approximate project area(s). As your Councilman, I am most appreciative of this policy, which promotes and requires citizen input. Lastly, if approved and installed, the petitioning neighborhood residents are required to share in the cost of installation.



ADDITIONAL CONTACTS: AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBERS

The 1st District Council Office is fortunate to work with our three (3) Council Members, who are elected countywide & serve as At-Large members. Please consider Vice Mayor Linda Gorton, Council Member Chuck Ellinger, and Council Member Steve Kay as additional resources to you here at the Government Center, in conjunction with my office.

For your reference, please find their contact information listed below:

Vice Mayor Linda Gorton: (859) 258-3828 / lgorton@lexingtonky.gov

Council Member Chuck Ellinger: (859) 258-3210 / cellinger@lexingtonky.gov

Council Member Steve Kay: (859) 258-3202 / skay@lexingtonky.gov



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A LOOK BACK AT 2013



CM Ford speaks to a breakout session at the
2013 Lexington Area Minority Business Expo



CM Ford met with members of the
Central KY Chapter of
Kentuckians for the Commonwealth



CM Ford with Ms. Yvonne Giles at the
East End Mural Dedication at the
Charles Young Center



CM Ford receives 2013 NAACP
Civic Engagement Award at the
Annual NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet



CM Ford honors World War II Veteran
& West End Resident, Mr. McElroy
Madden with a proclamation on behalf of
he and Mayor Gray